United Nations A/53/609/Add.1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 December 1998

Original: English

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 94 (a)

Environment and sustainable development: implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including the outcome of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Uladzimir **Gerus** (Belarus)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 94 (see A/53/609, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 35th and 42nd meetings, on 6 November and 1 December 1998. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/53/SR.35 and 42).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.25 and A/C.2/53/L.53

2. At the 35th meeting, on 6 November, at the request of the representative of Indonesia, the representative of India, on behalf of the sponsors, namely, the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of commitments undertaken at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly" (A/C.2/53/L.25), which read:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in seven parts, under the symbol A/53/609 and Add.1–6.

98-38335 (E) 091298

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which was held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, which was held in New York from 23 to 27 June 1997,

"*Reaffirming* that Agenda 21 remains the fundamental programme of action for achieving sustainable development, and that the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, adopted at the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, will enhance the full implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

"*Recognizing* that the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 includes a statement of commitment to Agenda 21 and the goals of sustainable development, an assessment of progress made since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in all main areas of Agenda 21 and other outcomes of the Conference, a broad range of decisions and recommendations aimed at fostering progress in various sectoral and cross-sectoral areas of Agenda 21, in particular in its means of implementation, decisions aimed at strengthening global and regional institutional arrangements for achieving sustainable development, and recommendations on the future methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the programme of work of the Commission for the period 1998–2002,

"*Also recognizing* that a mutually supportive balance between international and national efforts is needed in the pursuit of sustainable development, and that the gap between developed and developing countries points to the continued need for a dynamic and enabling international economic environment supportive of international cooperation, particularly in the fields of finance, technology transfer, debt and trade, if the momentum for global progress towards sustainable development is to be maintained and increased,

"*Noting with concern* that the assessment and review of progress made by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session concluded that although some progress had been made the overall trends with respect to the global environment had not improved,

"*Also noting* the convening of the first Global Environment Facility Assembly at New Delhi from 1 to 3 April 1998 and the conclusion of the negotiations on the second replenishment of the Facility,

"*Further noting* that the next comprehensive review of the implementation of Agenda 21 is scheduled to be carried out in 2002 by the General Assembly,

"1. *Stresses* the need to accelerate the full implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;

"2. *Recognizes* that the Commission on Sustainable Development, within its mandate as specified in General Assembly resolution 47/191, will continue to provide the central forum for reviewing progress and urging further implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and other commitments made at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, for conducting a high-level policy debate aimed at consensus-building

on sustainable development, and for catalyzing action and long-term commitment on sustainable development at all levels;

"3. *Calls upon* the Commission on Sustainable Development to continue to undertake these tasks in complementing and providing linkages to the work of other United Nations organs, organizations and bodies acting in the field of sustainable development, to play its role in assessing the challenges of globalization as they relate to sustainable development, and to perform its functions in coordination with other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council and related organizations and institutions, including making recommendations, within its mandate, to the Council, bearing in mind the related outcomes of recent United Nations conferences;

"4. *Emphasizes* that the achievement of more substantive results by the next review of the implementation of Agenda 21 in 2002 will require concerted efforts at all levels, and calls upon the developed countries to fulfil their commitments with respect to financial resources and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and capacity-building;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with all relevant parts of the United Nations system, including the Global Environment Facility, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme and the regional commissions, to prepare and submit an annual analytical report, beginning at the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly, on the measures undertaken by these bodies to accelerate implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, including identification of constraints and recommendations on how to address these constraints;

"6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in that annual report the outcome of relevant deliberations in the Commission on Sustainable Development under its multi-year programme of work with a view to facilitating preparations for the forthcoming review of the implementation of Agenda 21 in 2002;

"7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session, under the item entitled 'Environment and sustainable development', a sub-item entitled 'Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21'."

3. At the 42nd meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly" (A/C.2/53/L.53), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.25.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.53 (see para. 6).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.53, draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.25 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

6. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which was held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, which was held in New York from 23 to 27 June 1997,

Reaffirming that Agenda 21[1] is the fundamental programme of action for achieving sustainable development, and that the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[2] adopted at the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, will enhance the full implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recognizing that the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 includes a statement of commitment to Agenda 21 and the goals of sustainable development, an assessment of progress made since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in all main areas of Agenda 21 and other outcomes of the Conference, and recommendations on the future methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the programme of work of the Commission for the period 1998–2002,

Recognizing also that mutually supportive efforts at the national and international levels are needed in the pursuit of sustainable development, and that the gap between developed and developing countries points to the continuing need for a dynamic and enabling international economic environment supportive of international cooperation, particularly in the fields of finance, technology transfer, debt and trade, if the momentum for global progress towards sustainable development is to be maintained and increased,

Noting with concern that during the assessment and review of progress made at its nineteenth special session, the General Assembly concluded that although some progress had been made, especially at the local level, the overall trends with respect to the global environment had not improved, and emphasizing that the implementation of Agenda 21 in a comprehensive manner remains vitally important and is now more urgent than ever,

Noting also the convening of the first Assembly of the Global Environment Facility at New Delhi from 1 to 3 April 1998 and the conclusion of the second replenishment of the Facility,

Noting further that the next review of the implementation of Agenda 21 is scheduled to be carried out by the General Assembly in 2002,

1. *Stresses* the need to accelerate the full implementation of Agenda 21[1] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;[2]

2. *Recognizes* that the Commission on Sustainable Development, within its mandate as specified in General Assembly resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, will continue to provide the central forum for reviewing progress and for urging further implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and other commitments made

---

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development or as a result of it, for conducting a high-level policy debate aimed at consensus-building on sustainable development, for catalyzing action and long-term commitment on sustainable development at all levels and for urging further implementation of Agenda 21;

3. *Calls upon* the Commission on Sustainable Development to continue to undertake these tasks in complementing and providing interlinkages to the work of other United Nations organs, organizations and bodies active in the field of sustainable development, to play its role in assessing the challenges of globalization as they relate to sustainable development and to perform its functions in coordination with other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council and with related organizations and institutions, including making recommendations, within its mandate, to the Council, bearing in mind the interrelated outcomes of recent United Nations conferences;

4. *Emphasizes* that the achievement of more substantive results by the next review of the implementation of Agenda 21 in 2002 will require concerted efforts at all levels, including by Governments, and calls upon all countries to fulfil their commitments to Agenda 21, and in this context calls upon developed countries to fulfil the commitments they have undertaken with respect to financial resources and the transfer of environmentally sound technology;

5. *Underscores* the importance of the continued active and collaborative involvement of all relevant parts of the United Nations system in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, and requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with all relevant parts of the United Nations system and taking into account the outcome of the deliberations in the Commission on Sustainable Development, to submit to the General Assembly for its consideration at future sessions, through the Economic and Social Council in view of its coordination function, an analytical report on the measures taken within the United Nations system to accelerate the implementation of Agenda 21 and of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, including identification of constraints and recommendations on how to address those constraints;

6. *Stresses* the importance of high-quality preparations for the forthcoming ten-year review of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-fifth session a report on possible ways and means of ensuring effective preparations for the review;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21".

United Nations A/53/609/Add.2

General Assembly

Distr.: General
4 December 1998

Original: English

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 94 (b)

Environment and sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Uladzimir **Gerus** (Belarus)

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 94 (see A/53/609, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 42nd meeting, on 1 December 1998. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/53/SR.42).

2. At its 42nd meeting, on 1 December, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (A/53/449) (see para. 3).

Recommendation of the Second Committee

3. The Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

The General Assembly takes note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the results of the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.[1]

---

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in seven parts, under the symbol A/53/609 and Add.1–6.

[1] A/53/449.

98-38395 (E) 081298

United Nations A/53/609/Add.3

General Assembly

Distr.: General
4 December 1998

Original: English

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 94 (c)

Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Uladzimir **Gerus** (Belarus)

Addendum

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 94 (see A/53/609, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 26th and 41st meetings, on 28 October and 25 November 1998. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/53/SR.26 and 41).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.15 and A/C.2/53/L.46

2. At the 26th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of *Indonesia*, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and *China*, *Australia*, *Canada* and *New Zealand*, subsequently joined by *Norway*, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/53/L.15), which read:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in seven parts, under the symbol A/53/609 and Add.1–6.

98-38484 (E) 091298

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996 and 52/202 of 18 December 1997,

"*Reaffirming* the outcome of its nineteenth special session and the relevant decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development taken at its fifth and sixth sessions,

"*Noting* the importance of the decision taken at its nineteenth special session to convene a two-day special session, in New York in September 1999, for a full and comprehensive review and appraisal of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

"*Recognizing* that small island developing States are vulnerable and face constraints in their efforts to achieve sustainable development,

"*Noting* that implementation of the Programme of Action has taken place primarily at the national and regional levels, and commending efforts by small island developing States in this regard,

"*Noting further* that increased resources are instrumental for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on plans and projects for the sustainable development of small island developing States implemented, under implementation or envisaged for the period 1999–2003 by bilateral donors, United Nations organizations and regional and non-United Nations international organizations, and welcomes the action taken by small island developing States and the international donor community in implementing plans and projects for the sustainable development of small island developing States;

"2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the development of a vulnerability index for small island developing States and urges that the progress made in the development and compilation of a vulnerability index be continued and encourages all the relevant organizations engaged in the process of refining the vulnerability index to work collaboratively;

"3. *Welcomes* the action taken by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, with respect to the donors' conference, to be held from 24 to 26 February 1999 between representatives of small island developing States and prospective bilateral and multilateral donors, and urges the parties concerned to facilitate project preparation and development;

"4. *Welcomes* the actions taken by Governments, regional commissions and organizations, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in support of activities relating to the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

"5. *Encourages* all small island developing States and prospective bilateral and multilateral donors to participate in the donors' conference as a means of pursuing the development objectives of small island developing States;

"6. *Calls upon* small island developing States to continue preparations for the seventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the special session of the General Assembly in September 1999 for the review and appraisal of

the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and urges the international community, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental bodies to continue to assist in this regard;

"7. *Decides* to invite States members of the specialized agencies that are not members of the United Nations to participate in the special session of the General Assembly and in the preparatory meetings therefor;

"8. *Stresses* the need for the effective participation of actors of civil society, particularly non-governmental organizations, in the preparations for the special session, as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements, taking into account the practice and experience gained at the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, for their substantive contributions to and active involvement in the preparatory meetings and the special session, and in that context invites the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to propose to Member States appropriate modalities for their effective involvement in the special session;

"9. *Also decides* to establish a voluntary fund to assist small island developing States to participate fully and effectively in the special session and its preparatory process and invites Governments to contribute to this fund;

"10. *Reiterates* the urgency for the international community to support adaptation efforts by small island developing States to cope with the threat of sea-level rise experienced as a consequence of climate change;

"11. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by the Global Environment Facility and invites it, in accordance with the relevant decisions of its Council and the relevant provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity to support further the objectives of the Programme of Action;

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its special session for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action a report on the donors' conference;

"13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on actions taken to implement the present resolution and recommendations emanating from the special session for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action;

"14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session, under the item entitled 'Environment and sustainable development', the sub-item entitled 'Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States'."

3. At the 41st meeting, on 25 November, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/53/L.46), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.15.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.46 (see para. 6).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.46, draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.15 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

6. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996 and 52/202 of 18 December 1997,

Reaffirming the outcome of its nineteenth special session, held from 23 to 28 June 1997, specifically the adoption of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[1] and the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development taken at its fifth[2] and sixth[3] sessions, held from 7 to 25 April 1997, and on 22 December 1997 and from 20 April to 1 May 1998, respectively,

Noting the importance of the decision taken at its nineteenth special session[4] to convene a two-day special session, in New York in September 1999, for a full and comprehensive review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[5]

Reaffirming its decision to invite States members of the specialized agencies that are not members of the United Nations to participate in the special session and in the preparatory meetings therefor, in the capacity of observers,

Recognizing that small island developing States are vulnerable and face constraints in their efforts to achieve sustainable development,

Noting that implementation of the Programme of Action has been carried out primarily at the national and regional levels, and commending efforts by small island developing States in this regard,

Noting also that the considerable efforts being made at the national and regional levels need to be supplemented by effective financial support from the international community,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[6] on plans and projects for the sustainable development of small island developing States implemented, under implementation or envisaged for the period 1999–2003 by bilateral donors, United Nations organizations and regional and non-United Nations international organizations, and welcomes the action taken by small island developing States and the international donor community in implementing plans and projects for the sustainable development of small island developing States;

---

[1] Resolution S–19/2, annex.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 9* (E/1997/29).

[3] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 9* (E/1998/29).

[4] Resolution S–19/2, annex, para. 71.

[5] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[6] A/53/358.

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[7] on the development of a vulnerability index for small island developing States, urges that the progress made in the development and compilation of a vulnerability index for small island developing States be continued and encourages all the relevant organizations engaged in the process of refining the vulnerability index to work collaboratively;

3. *Welcomes* the action taken by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, with respect to the donors' conference, a meeting to be held from 24 to 26 February 1999 between representatives of small island developing States and prospective bilateral and multilateral donors, and urges the parties concerned to facilitate project preparation and development;

4. *Encourages* all small island developing States and prospective bilateral and multilateral donors to participate in the donors' conference as a means of pursuing the development objectives of small island developing States;

5. *Welcomes* the actions taken by Governments, regional commissions and organizations, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in support of activities relating to the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

6. *Urges* small island developing States to continue preparations for the seventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the special session of the General Assembly in September 1999 for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and urges the international community, organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies to continue to assist in this regard;

7. *Calls* for the participation of associate members of regional economic commissions in the special session for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and in the preparatory process thereof, in the same capacity of observer that held for their participation in the 1994 Global Conference;

8. *Stresses* the need for the effective participation of actors of civil society, particularly non-governmental organizations, in preparation for the special session, as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements, taking into account the practice and experience gained at the Global Conference, for their substantive contributions to and active involvement in the preparatory meetings, and the special session, and in that context invites the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to propose to Member States appropriate modalities for their effective involvement in the special session;

9. *Also stresses* the importance of the full and effective participation of small island developing States in the special session and in the seventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development as the preparatory body for the special session, and invites Governments to make timely and voluntary contributions for that purpose to the Trust Fund for Support of the Work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and in this context requests the Secretary-General to assist small island developing States by applying the modalities for such assistance used for their participation in the Global Conference;

[7] A/53/65–E/1998/5.

10. *Reiterates* the urgency of the international community's support of adaptation efforts by small island developing States to cope with the threat of sea-level rise experienced as a consequence of climate change;

11. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by the Global Environment Facility, and invites it, in accordance with the relevant decisions of its Council and the relevant provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[8] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[9] to support further the objectives of the Programme of Action;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its seventh session, through the existing mechanism, and to the General Assembly at its special session for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, a report on the donors' conference;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on actions taken to implement the present resolution and the recommendations emanating from the special session for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

---

[8] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

[9] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

United Nations A/53/609/Add.4

General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 December 1998

Original: English

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 94 (d)

Environment and sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Uladzimir **Gerus** (Belarus)

Addendum

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 94 (see A/53/609, para. 2). Action on sub-item (d) was taken at the 36th and 42nd meetings, on 10 November and 1 December 1998. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/53/SR.36 and 42).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.29 and A/C.2/53/L.54

2. At the 36th meeting, on 10 November, at the request of the representative of Indonesia, the representative of Ethiopia, on behalf of the sponsors, namely the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity" (A/C.2/53/L.29), which read:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolution 52/201 of 18 December 1997 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant resolutions relating to the Convention,

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in seven parts, under the symbol A/53/609 and Add.1–6.

98-38304 (E) 081298

"*Recalling* also the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,[1]

"*Recalling* further Agenda 21,[2] particularly its chapter 15 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and related chapters,

"*Having considered* the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity,[3]

"*Deeply concerned* by the continued loss of world's biological diversity and recognizing the contribution of indigenous and local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources,

"*Noting with concern* the lack of progress in the negotiation process to reconcile the relevant articles of the Convention and the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights with the issue of equitable sharing of benefits from the use of biological resources, as contained in the Convention,

"*Encouraged* by the work carried out to date under the Convention,

"*Noting with satisfaction* that most States have ratified or acceded to the Convention,

"*Taking note with appreciation* of the generous offer of the Government of Colombia to host the sixth meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on Biosafety and the extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties which will take place in Cartagena de Indias, 15–19 and 22–23 February 1999, respectively,

"*Recalling* its invitation to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the result of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

"*Noting* the utility of organizing regular timely briefings by the Bureau of the Second Committee on the various issues pertaining to the subject of biological diversity,

"1. *Welcomes* the results of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Bratislava from 4 to 16 May 1998, as reflected in the report of the meeting,[4] submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 51/182 of 16 December 1996, and in that context, reaffirms the need to take concrete action to fulfil the objectives contained in article 1 of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

"2. *Takes note* of the decision of the fourth Conference of the Parties on the programme of work and the thematic approach adopted to guide its work in the development of the Convention for the foreseeable future;

"3. *Expresses grave concern* at the evolution of technologies such as terminator technologies which would adversely affect farmers and local communities in developing countries;

---

[1] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] A/53/451, annex.

[4] UNEP/CDB/COP/4/27.

"4. *Expresses also deep concern* at the granting of proprietary patents before the prior informed consent of developing countries has been obtained and before mutually beneficial arrangements have been made on flow-back benefits and resources to the developing countries concerned which are the storehouses of biodiversity and traditional knowledge;

"5. *Recognizes* the important role that indigenous and local communities play in the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of traditional knowledge, as contained in the relevant articles of the Convention, and in this regard, calls on the secretariats of the Convention and the World Trade Organization to undertake the necessary consultations with member countries of the Convention and the World Trade Organization with a view to addressing properly the relationship between the relevant articles of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and the Convention;

"6. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

"7. *Invites* all funding institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors, regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the secretariat of the Convention in the implementation of the programme of work;

"8. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention urgently to settle any arrears and pay their contributions in full and in a timely manner so as to ensure continuity in the cash flows required to finance ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat;

"9. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the results of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and on the outcome of the consultations carried out with other relevant institutions;

"10. *Requests* the Bureau of the Second Committee, in coordination with the Secretariat, to continue organizing regular timely briefings on the various issues pertinent to biological diversity;

"11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the sub-item entitled 'Convention on Biological Diversity'."

3. At the 42nd meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity" (A/C.2/53/L.54), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.29, and orally corrected the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 2, the word "concerning" was replaced with the word "on"; the word "programme" became "programmes"; and the word "adopted" was inserted after the word "approach";

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the word "analyses" was replaced with the word "analysis".

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.54, as orally corrected (see para. 6).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.54, draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.29 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

6. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/201 of 18 December 1997 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant resolutions relating to the Convention,

Recalling also the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,[5]

Recalling further Agenda 21,[6] particularly its chapter 15 on the conservation of biological diversity and related chapters,

Having considered the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity,[7]

Deeply concerned about the continued loss of the world's biological diversity and, on the basis of the provisions of the Convention, reaffirming the commitment to the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding,

Recognizing the contribution of indigenous and local communities to the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources,

Emphasizing that the Convention is an important instrument for achieving sustainable development, taking into account its three objectives, and for promoting the ecosystem approach embodied in the Convention and the decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

Recalling the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting, relating to intellectual property rights and the relationship of the Convention with other international agreements,

Noting the dialogue taking place in the Committee on Trade and Environment of the World Trade Organization on the provisions of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights,

Encouraged by the work carried out to date under the Convention, and satisfied that most States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Convention,

Taking note with appreciation of the generous offer of the Government of Colombia to host the sixth meeting of the Open-ended Ad hoc Working Group on Biosafety and the extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which will take place at Cartagena de Indias from 15 to 19 February and on 22 and 23 February 1999, respectively,

---

[5] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[6] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[7] A/53/451, annex.

Recalling its invitation to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the result of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

Noting the importance of decision IV/6, in particular paragraph 11 thereof, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting,

1. *Welcomes* the results of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held at Bratislava from 4 to 16 May 1998;[8]

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the adoption of the programmes of work and the thematic approach adopted to guide its work in the development of the Convention for the foreseeable future, including its in-depth consideration of ecosystems;[9]

3. *Calls upon* Governments, in cooperation with the Conference of the Parties, to use science-based analysis, to study and monitor closely the evolution of new technologies to prevent possible adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, which might have an impact on farmers and local communities;

4. *Recognizes* the importance of the adoption of a protocol on bio-safety at the extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 1999, or as soon as possible thereafter;

5. *Welcomes* decision IV/15, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting, in which the Conference of the Parties stresses the need to ensure consistency in implementing the Convention and World Trade Organization agreements, including the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, with a view to promoting increased mutual supportiveness and integration of biological diversity concerns and the protection of intellectual property rights;

6. *Reaffirms* paragraph 10 of decision IV/15, in which the Conference of the Parties emphasizes that further work is required to help develop a common appreciation of the relationship between intellectual property rights and the relevant provisions of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular on issues relating to technology transfer and conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources, including the protection of knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of the implementation of the Convention at all levels, including through the preparation and implementation of national strategies, plans and programmes, taking into account the need for financial resources to support the implementation activities, in particular those of developing countries, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties;

8. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

9. *Welcomes* decision IV/8, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting, in which the Conference of the Parties decided to establish a panel of experts to implement the terms outlined in the decision;

---

[8] See A/53/451, annex.

[9] Decision IV/16.

10. *Recognizes* the importance of national action to conserve biological diversity in many habitats, including forests, wetlands and coastal areas, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular article 8, and the need to mobilize national and international support for such national actions;

11. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting to include an item entitled "Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitat or species" in the agenda of its sixth meeting;

12. *Recognizes* the utility of information exchange, and encourages the development of biodiversity information networks at the national, regional and international levels;

13. *Invites* all funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to cooperate with the secretariat of the Convention in the implementation of the programme of work;

14. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to urgently settle any arrears and pay their contribution in full and in a timely manner so as to ensure continuity in the cash flows required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies[10] and the Convention secretariat;

15. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the ongoing work of the Convention;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

---

[10] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992, articles 23.4 (g) and 25.

United Nations A/53/609/Add.5

General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 December 1998

Original: English

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 94 (e)

Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Uladzimir **Gerus** (Belarus)

Addendum

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 94 (see A/53/609, para. 2). Action on sub-item (e) was taken at the 26th and 42nd meetings, on 28 October and 1 December 1998. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/53/SR.26 and 42).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.16 and A/C.2/53/L.52

2. At the 26th meeting, on 28 October, at the request of the representative of Indonesia, the representative of Benin, on behalf of the sponsors, namely, the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa" (A/C.2/53/L.16), which read:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in seven parts, under the symbol A/53/609 and Add.1–6.

98-38322 (E) 081298

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 52/198 of 18 December 1997 and other relevant resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

"*Noting with satisfaction* that a great number of States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified or acceded to the Convention, and confirming its globality and the worldwide support it enjoys,

"*Expressing its deep appreciation* to the Government of Senegal for the generous offer to host the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

"*Expressing its deep appreciation* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to all bilateral and multilateral contributors, including intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations, for the contribution and the support they provided to the interim secretariat of the Convention,

"*Noting with appreciation* the work of the interim secretariat in facilitating the effective implementation of the Convention at the national, subregional and regional levels,

"*Looking forward* to the continued efforts of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies in addressing desertification and drought issues in the light of the provisions of the Convention, as well as of the decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties at its first session, held in Rome in October 1997,

"*Noting* the statement made by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on the progress made by the interim secretariat and the parties to the Convention, as well as by non-governmental organizations, in implementing the provisions of the Convention,

"*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolution 52/198, in particular paragraph 12 thereof,

"1. *Welcomes* the convening of the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in Dakar, Senegal, from 30 November to 11 December 1998, in accordance with paragraph 19 of its resolution 52/198;

"2. *Calls upon* all States and other actors to contribute to the successful outcome of the second session of the Conference of the Parties at Dakar;

"3. *Calls upon* the remaining States to ratify or accede to the Convention, as soon as possible;

"4. *Takes note* of the fact that the Convention secretariat and the Federal Government of Germany signed the host agreement on 18 August 1998, which entered into force on 23 October 1998, and invites the host Government to contribute fully to the relocation of the secretariat in Bonn and its effective functioning;

"5. *Expresses deep concern and notes with regret* that the Global Mechanism did not begin operating on 1 January 1998, as decided by the Conference of the Parties at its first session;

"6. *Urges* all Parties to the Convention to pay promptly and in full in the first month of each year, starting on 1 January 1999, the contributions required for the core budget of the Convention envisaged in the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties, so as to ensure continuity in the cash flow required to finance the ongoing

work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies, the permanent secretariat and the Global Mechanism;

"7. *Reiterates its appeal* to Governments, all interested organizations and the private sector to urgently and effectively make the voluntary contributions necessary to ensure the operationalization of the Global Mechanism no later than 1 January 1999;

"8. *Urges* Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the General Fund, the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund to be established by 1 January 1999, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;

"9. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular developed countries and the United Nations system, and invites the multilateral financial institutions and all other interested actors, to support the efforts of affected developing countries in the processes of elaboration and implementation of action programmes to combat desertification, including the programme of cooperation between Africa and Asia adopted at Niamey on 5 September 1997, as well as the platform of interregional cooperation between Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean adopted at Recife, Brazil, on 16 October 1998, by providing them with financial resources and other forms of assistance;

"10. *Invites* the Conference of the Parties at its second session, in Dakar, to facilitate and launch the process of the elaboration and negotiation of an additional regional implementation annex to the Convention for the countries of the Eastern and Central European region, with a view to finalizing it as soon as possible;

"11. *Reaffirms* its decision, in conformity with paragraph 17 of its resolution 52/198, to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 1998–1999 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for that biennium, taking into account the request of the Conference of the Parties at its first session, held in Rome in October 1997;

"12. *Encourages* the Conferences of the Parties to and the permanent secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa to examine appropriate opportunities and measures to strengthen complementarities and ecological linkages between the three Conventions;

"13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the outcome of the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as well as on measures taken for the implementation of decisions adopted by the Conference at that session;

"14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the sub-item entitled 'Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa'."

3. At the 42nd meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/53/L.52), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.16.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.52 (see para. 7).

5. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement (see A/C.2/53/SR.42).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.52, draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.16 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/198 of 18 December 1997 and other relevant resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[1]

Reiterating its decision, in conformity with paragraph 17 of its resolution 52/198, to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 1998–1999 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies[2] envisaged for that biennium, taking into account the request of the Conference of the Parties at its first session, held in Rome in October 1997,

Noting with satisfaction that a great number of States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified or acceded to the Convention, and confirming its globality and the worldwide support it enjoys,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Senegal for the generous offer to host the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Secretary-General and to all bilateral and multilateral contributors, including intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations, for the contribution and the support they provided to the interim secretariat of the Convention,

Noting with appreciation the work undertaken by the interim secretariat in contributing to the ratification and implementation of the Convention at the national, subregional and regional levels, including in promoting public awareness,

Looking forward to the continued efforts of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies in addressing desertification and drought issues in the light of the provisions of the Convention, as well as of the decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties at its first session,

[1] A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

[2] As defined in accordance with articles 22, paragraph (c), and 24 of the Convention.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[3] on the implementation of Assembly resolution 52/198, submitted in accordance with paragraph 21 thereof, and noting in this context the statement made on 22 October 1998 to the Second Committee of the General Assembly by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on the progress made by all actors in implementing the provisions of the Convention,

1. *Welcomes* the convening of the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at Dakar from 30 November to 11 December 1998, in accordance with paragraph 19 of its resolution 52/198;

2. *Calls upon* all States and other actors to contribute to the successful outcome of the second session of the Conference of the Parties;

3. *Also calls upon* all countries that are not yet parties to the Convention to ratify or accede to the Convention as soon as possible;

4. *Notes* that the United Nations, the Convention secretariat and the Government of Germany signed a headquarters agreement on 18 August 1998, which will be before the Conference of the Parties at its second session for adoption, subject to ratification by the German Parliament;

5. *Invites* the host Government and the Convention secretariat to contribute fully to the relocation of the secretariat and its effective functioning at Bonn, and also invites the secretariat to continue its efforts with a view to finalizing the relocation as soon as possible;

6. *Notes with concern* that the Global Mechanism did not begin operating on 1 January 1998;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the International Fund for Agricultural Development to establish the framework for the separate identity of the Global Mechanism within the Fund, and looks forward to a prompt starting of its activities, in conformity with the provisions of the Convention and relevant decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties at its first session;

8. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to pay promptly and in full on or before 1 January of each year, starting in 1999, the contributions required for the core budget of the Convention envisaged in the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties,[4] so as to ensure continuity in the cash flow required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies, the permanent secretariat and the Global Mechanism;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the financial support already provided on a voluntary basis by some States parties, and reiterates its appeal to Governments, all interested organizations and the private sector to make promptly further voluntary contributions in support of the activities and functioning of the Global Mechanism;

10. *Calls upon* Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the General Fund, the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund, to be established by 1 January 1999 in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;[5]

---

[3] A/53/516.

[4] ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1, decision 2/COP.1, annex, para. 14.

[5] ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1, decision 2/COP.1, annex..

11. *Also calls upon* developing country parties to the Convention to accelerate the process of elaboration and adoption of national action programmes, and calls for the implementation of those adopted through, *inter alia*, the conclusion of partnership agreements, including consideration of the contributions of non-governmental organizations;

12. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular developed countries and the United Nations system, and invites the multilateral financial institutions and all other interested actors, to support the efforts of affected developing countries in the process of elaborating and implementing action programmes to combat desertification, including, as appropriate, interregional programmes and platforms of cooperation, by providing them with financial resources and other forms of assistance;

13. *Invites* the Conference of the Parties at its second session to facilitate and launch the process of elaborating and negotiating an additional regional implementation annex to the Convention for the countries of the Eastern and Central European region, with a view to finalizing it as soon as possible;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the outcome of the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as well as on measures taken for the implementation of decisions adopted by the Conference at that session;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa".

United Nations A/53/609/Add.6

General Assembly

Distr.: General
4 December 1998

Original: English

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 94

Environment and sustainable development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Uladzimir **Gerus** (Belarus)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 94 (see A/53/609, para. 2). Action on the item as a whole was taken at the 23rd, 26th, 29th, 36th, 40th, 41st and 42nd meetings, on 23, 28 and 30 October, 10, 24, 25 November and 1 December 1998. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/53/SR.23, 26, 29, 36 and 40–42).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.10

2. On 21 October, the representative of *Indonesia*, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and *China*, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the United Nations conventions on environment and development" (A/C.2/53/L.10), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 52/198 and 52/201 of 18 December 1997,

"*Noting with satisfaction* that a large number of States have ratified the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in seven parts, under the symbol A/53/609 and Add.1–6.

98-38414 (E) 101298

Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and calling upon other States to take appropriate action to that end,

"*Noting* also with satisfaction that most States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified or acceded to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity,

"*Welcoming with appreciation* the generous offer of the Government of Argentina to host the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change from 2 to 13 November 1998, as well as the generous offer of the Government of Senegal to host the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa in Dakar from 30 November to 11 December 1998,

"*Emphasizing* that those Conventions are important instruments for achieving sustainable development, taking into account the objectives embodied therein,

"*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,

"1. *Welcomes* the selection by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, at its first session of the International Fund for Agricultural Development to house the Global Mechanism and, in accordance with Conference decision 24/COP.1, invites the Fund, as the lead organization, to cooperate fully with the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank;

"2. *Also welcomes* the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by the Conference of the Parties at its third session, and calls upon all States to make further efforts to ensure the entry into force of the Protocol as soon as possible;

"3. *Stresses* the necessity to advance, as soon as possible, the full implementation of the Conventions;

"4. *Calls upon* the Governments of affected countries, as a matter of priority, to accelerate the processes of elaboration of national, subregional and regional action programmes, and calls upon the international community, in particular the developed countries, and the United Nations system, and invites the multilateral financial institutions and all other interested actors to support the efforts of developing countries in those processes by providing financial resources and other forms of assistance, such as transfer of technology and capacity-building, in accordance with the relevant articles of the Conventions and the decisions of the Conferences of the Parties;

"5. *Invites* the Executive Secretaries of the Conventions to report to the General Assembly on the results of future meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Convention;

"6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on action taken to implement the present resolution;

"7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session an item entitled 'Implementation of the United Nations conventions on environment and development'."

3. At the 40th meeting, on 24 November, the representative of Indonesia announced that draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.10 was being withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.11 and Corr.1 and A/C.2/53/L.30

4. At the 23rd meeting, on 23 October, the representative of *Indonesia*, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and *China*, *Australia, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Norway* and the *United States of America*, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon" (A/C.2/53/L.11 and Corr.1), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of its resolution 52/200 of 18 December 1997 on international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon,

"*Considering* that the El Niño Southern Oscillation is a natural phenomenon which appears in a recurrent way and in frequent periods and, hence, in a predictable manner,

"*Noting* that an opposite phenomenon to the El Niño Southern Oscillation, known as La Niña, according to scientific predictions, can occur and affect several regions of the world, and that international cooperation would also be needed in order to reduce its impact,

"*Expressing its deepest concern* about the widespread and devastating effects of the El Niño Southern Oscillation all over the world, especially during the year 1997/98, which the scientists have recognized as the year in which the El Niño Southern Oscillation has had its strongest manifestation on record,

"*Stressing* that any credible strategy for the reduction of the natural disaster effects of future El Niño occurrences must be based on effective dialogue and cooperation between the scientific and the technological areas of the United Nations system and its operational responsibilities in the fields of disaster management, humanitarian assistance, sustainable development, technical cooperation and capacity-building,

"1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 52/200 and endorses the recommendations and conclusions contained therein;

"2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the cooperation provided by the United Nations system to the countries affected by the El Niño phenomenon and for the valuable cooperation given by the international community;

"3. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the organization of the first Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts on El Niño, to be held at Guayaquil, Ecuador, from 9 to 13 November 1998, in accordance with paragraph 10 of resolution 52/200;

"4. *Decides* that the report on the outcome of that Meeting will be considered under appropriate items at the seventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, at the substantive session of the Economic and Social council of 1999 and at the special session of the General Assembly for the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

"5. *Also decides* to consider the La Niña phenomenon in the context of the implementation of resolution 52/200;

"6. *Calls* for the continued and full implementation of resolution 52/200;

"7. *Welcomes* the convening, in 1999, of an intergovernmental meeting of experts on the El Niño phenomenon, to be held at Lima, which will have a comprehensive approach, comprising scientific, technical, social and political issues, and a broad participation of intergovernmental experts and policy decision makers;

"8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, under the item entitled 'Environment and sustainable development', a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

"9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit recommendations to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999, on how the United Nations system will deal with the reduction of natural disasters after the conclusion of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction in 1999."

5. At the 36th meeting, on 10 November, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced a draft resolution entitled "International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon" (A/C.2/53/L.30), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.11 and Corr.1. Subsequently, *Ireland, Portugal* and *Spain* joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.30 (see para. 18, draft resolution I).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.30, draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.11 and Corr.1 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.17 and A/C.2/53/L.59

8. At the 26th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of the *Russian Federation* introduced a draft resolution entitled "Review of progress made in implementing conventions related to environment and sustainable development" (A/C.2/53/L.17), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted at its nineteenth special session, in particular part IV thereof, entitled 'International institutional arrangements',

"*Recalling* the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its nineteenth session,

"*Recalling further* its decision 52/445 of 18 December 1997, in which it decided to continue to review the progress made in implementing the conventions signed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development or established as a result of the Conference, as well as other conventions related to sustainable development, bearing in mind section IV.A of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,

"*Recognizing* that policy decisions under the conventions are undertaken by their respective conferences of the parties, which are autonomous bodies,

"*Recalling* decision 17/25 of 21 May 1993 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, by which the Governing Council adopted the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law,

"*Aware* of close linkages among various conventions and stressing the need for their further assessment, as appropriate, with a view to achieving synergies and multiple benefits and to promoting coherence of policies and actions, thus supporting progress in their overall implementation,

"*Recognizing* the role of the General Assembly in fostering progress in the implementation of the conventions and of the commitments contained therein,

"*Recognizing also* the role the Assembly should play in the overall development of international environmental law related to sustainable development from a cross-sectoral and integrated perspective,

"*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on ways and means of undertaking the review of the progress made in implementing the conventions related to sustainable development,

"1. *Decides* to undertake at future sessions integrated reviews of progress made in implementing the conventions related to environment and sustainable development, on the basis of an assessment of their linkages, with a view to elaborating policy recommendations which could be brought to the attention of their respective conferences of the parties;

"2. *Further decides* that the United Nations Environment Programme, in conformity with paragraph 119 of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, should prepare for consideration by the General Assembly at future sessions periodic thematic reports, with a view to assisting the Assembly in undertaking the intergovernmental reviews envisaged in paragraph 1 above; such reports should be prepared in close collaboration with the secretariats of the conventions and should:

"(a) Focus on scientific assessments of ecological linkages between the conventions, making full use of the capacity of the United Nations Environment Programme in environmental assessment and monitoring;

"(b) Synthesize the results of relevant studies and other activities taking place, both individually and jointly, under the conventions;

"3. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in consultation with the executive secretaries of the conventions and the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development, to prepare proposals regarding the possible themes, scope and timing of such reviews and submit those proposals for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session."

9. At the 42nd meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced a draft resolution entitled "International institutional arrangements related to environment and development" (A/C.2/53/L.59), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.17, and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.59 as follows:

(a) In the sixth preambular paragraph, the word "section" was replaced by the word "part";

(b) In operative paragraph 1, the word "improve" was replaced by the word "better";

(c) In operative paragraph 2, the words "implement section IV.A" were replaced by the words "implement part IV.A" and the words "in section IV" were replaced by the words "in part IV".

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.59, as orally corrected (see para. 18, draft resolution II).

11. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of France made a statement (see A/C.2/53/SR.42).

12. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.59, draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.17 was withdrawn by its sponsor.

D. Draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.21 and A/C.2/53/L.58

13. At the 29th meeting, on 30 October, at the request of the representatives of Indonesia, the representatives of Kenya, on behalf of the sponsors, namely, the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme" (A/C.2/53/L.21), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it decided to establish the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

"*Also recalling* the results and decisions of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, convened for the purpose of the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, and, in particular, paragraphs 119 and 122 to 124 of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,

"*Further recalling* the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its nineteenth session,

"*Having considered* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fifth special session,

"1. *Welcomes* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fifth special session and the decisions contained therein;

"2. *Recognizes*, in particular, Governing Council decision SS.V/2 on the revitalization, reform and strengthening of the United Nations Environment Programme, including the areas that need special action from time to time, as identified by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in line with the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme;

"3. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries, at Rotterdam on 11 September 1998, of the Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and, in particular, the participation of the secretariat of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme as an interim secretariat to the Convention;

"4. *Reaffirms* Nairobi as the location for the United Nations Environment Programme and the strengthening of the Programme as the focal point for consideration of global environmental issues;

"5. *Encourages* the United Nations Environment Programme to further strengthen its revitalized role as an important implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility, taking into account the decisions of the March 1998 meeting of the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, and welcomes in particular the collaboration with the Global Environment Facility on freshwater resources, such as the Global International Waters Assessment, and on activities aiming at combating land degradation as they relate to the focal areas of the Global Environment Facility;

"6. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in streamlining the organization in Nairobi, stresses the importance of adequate, stable and predictable financial resources as an essential prerequisite to enable the Programme to discharge its strengthened mandate, and calls upon Governments to make contributions in order to allow for the full and effective implementation of the programmes of the Environment Programme;

"7. *Encourages* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to intensify his efforts to mobilize additional resources from other donor sources as appropriate."

14. At the 42nd meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme" (A/C.2/53/L.58), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.21, and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.58 as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 6, the word "the" was inserted after the words "welcomes further";

(b) In operative paragraph 7, the words "in this regard, recognizes" were replaced by the words "in this regard, further recognizes".

15. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.58, as orally corrected (see para. 18, draft resolution III).

16. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.58, draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.21 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

E. Draft decision

17. At its 42nd meeting, on 1 December, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment (A/53/156-E/1998/78) (see para. 19).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

18. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of its resolution 52/200 of 18 December 1997 on international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon,[1]

Expressing its deepest concern about the widespread and devastating effects of the El Niño Southern Oscillation on most of the regions of the world, especially during the period 1997–1998, which scientists have recognized as the period in which the El Niño Southern Oscillation has had its strongest manifestation on record,

Noting the progress made in the understanding of the El Niño Southern Oscillation, and noting further that a continued increase in the collection and exchange of data and information could assist in the modelling and prediction of the recurrence of this natural phenomenon,

Noting also that a phenomenon opposite to the El Niño Southern Oscillation, known as La Niña, can, according to scientific predictions, occur in and affect several regions of the world, and that international cooperation could be needed in order to reduce its impact,

Stressing that any credible strategy for the reduction of the natural disaster effects of future El Niño occurrences must be based on effective dialogue and cooperation between the scientific and technological areas of the United Nations system and its operational responsibilities in the fields of disaster management, humanitarian assistance, sustainable development, technical cooperation and capacity-building, including data-collection, monitoring and early warning systems, at all levels,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General[1] on the implementation of its resolution 52/200 and endorses the recommendations and conclusions contained therein;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the cooperation provided by the United Nations system to the countries affected in their efforts to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon and for the valuable cooperation given by the international community;

3. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the outcome of the International Conference on Early Warning Systems for the Reduction of Natural Disasters, convened within the framework of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction at Potsdam, Germany, from 7 to 11 September 1998;

4. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the organization of the first Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts on El Niño, held at Guayaquil, Ecuador, from 9 to 13 November 1998, in accordance with paragraph 10 of its resolution 52/200;

[1] A/53/487.

5. *Decides* that the report on the outcome of that Meeting will be considered under appropriate agenda items at the seventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, at the substantive session of 1999 of the Economic and Social Council and at the special session of the General Assembly for the in-depth assessment and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[2]

6. *Also decides* to consider the La Niña phenomenon in the context of the implementation of its resolution 52/200;

7. *Calls* for the continued and full implementation of its resolution 52/200;

8. *Welcomes* the convening, in 1999, of an intergovernmental meeting of experts on the El Niño phenomenon, to be held at Lima, which will have a comprehensive approach, encompassing scientific, technical, social and political issues, and a broad participation of intergovernmental experts and policy decision makers;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to submit recommendations to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999, on how the United Nations system can deal with natural disaster reduction after the conclusion of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction in 1999, taking into account the lessons learned and making early warning a key element for future natural disaster reduction strategies;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution II

International institutional arrangements related to environment and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[3] adopted at its nineteenth special session, in particular part IV thereof, entitled "International institutional arrangements",

Recalling also its decision 52/445 of 18 December 1997 on progress in the implementation of conventions relating to sustainable development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, on ways and means of undertaking the review of progress made in implementing conventions related to sustainable development,[4]

Emphasizing that policy decisions under the conventions are undertaken by their respective Conferences of the Parties, which are autonomous governing bodies,

---

[2] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] A/53/477.

Noting that various conventions related to environment and sustainable development are at different stages of implementation, and recognizing the role of the General Assembly in fostering progress in the implementation of those conventions and of the commitments contained therein,

Reaffirming the need, as stipulated in part IV of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, for greater coherence in various intergovernmental organizations and processes through better policy coordination at the intergovernmental level, as well as for continued and more concerted efforts to enhance collaboration among the secretariats of relevant decision-making bodies,

1. *Encourages* the Conferences of the Parties to, and the permanent secretariats of, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[5] the Convention on Biological Diversity[6] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa[7] to examine appropriate opportunities and measures to strengthen their complementarities and better scientific assessments of ecological linkages between the three conventions;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report, for submission to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, identifying actions undertaken to implement part IV.A, in particular paragraph 119, of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] as well as the areas requiring further consideration and work, taking into account the roles of relevant organizations and institutions of the United Nations system, as stated in part IV of the Programme.

Draft resolution III

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it decided to establish the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Also recalling the results and decisions of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, convened for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21,[8] and, in particular, paragraphs 119 and 122–124 of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[9]

Further recalling the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its nineteenth session,[10]

---

[5] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

[6] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[7] A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

[8] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[9] Resolution S/19-2, annex.

[10] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fifth special session,[11]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fifth special session and the decisions contained therein;[11]

2. *Recognizes*, in particular, Governing Council decision SS.V/2 on the revitalization, reform and strengthening of the United Nations Environment Programme,[12] including the areas of concentration of the activities of the Programme as proposed by the Executive Director in keeping with the spirit of the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme,[10] as well as other priority areas of the Programme as established by the Governing Council at its nineteenth session;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries, at Rotterdam on 10 September 1998, of the Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and takes note of the fact that the functions of the secretariat of the Convention are jointly performed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme as an interim arrangement pending the final decision to be taken by the parties to the Convention on the location of the secretariat;

4. *Also welcomes* the holding of the first session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for an international legally binding instrument for implementing international action on certain persistent organic pollutants which took place in Montreal, Canada, in June 1998, and further welcomes the positive role played by the United Nations Environment Programme in the field of environmental management of chemicals and especially the efforts undertaken by the Programme as the secretariat of the Convention for the negotiations on a convention on persistent organic pollutants;

5. *Emphasizes* that the United Nations Environment Programme has been and must continue to be the principal United Nations body in the field of environment and that its role is to be the leading global environmental authority which sets the global environmental agenda, which promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and which serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment;

6. *Welcomes* Governing Council decision SS.V/6,[13] as well as the decisions of the April 1998 meeting of the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility and the October 1998 Global Environment Facility Council meeting regarding the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in the Facility, and welcomes further the collaboration with the Facility on freshwater resources, as in the global international water assessment, and on activities aimed at combating land degradation as they relate to the focal areas of the Facility;

7. *Encourages* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue with the ongoing reform of the Programme; recognizes, as stated in the Nairobi Declaration, that, in order to operationalize its mandate, a revitalized Programme needs adequate, stable and predictable financial resources; and, in this regard, further recognizes the interrelationship between excellence, relevance and cost-effectiveness in programme delivery, confidence in the organization and a consequent increase in the ability of the Programme to attract funding;

---

[11] Ibid., *Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/53/25).

[12] Ibid., annex I, decision SS.V/2.

[13] Ibid., decision SS.V/6.

8. *Also encourages* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to intensify his efforts to mobilize additional financial resources from otherdonorsources, as appropriate, in order to support the implementation of the priority areas of the Programme in line with the Nairobi Declaration and subject to the agreement of the Governing Council.

* * *

19. The Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment

The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment.[14]

[14] A/53/156-E/1998/78.